

RESOLUTION NO. 71-12

BY: **ALLAN DIVIS**

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “AUTISM
AWARENESS MONTH” DESIGNATED AS THE
MONTH OF APRIL, 2012, AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, April is designated as “Autism Awareness Month” and April 2nd is “World Autism Awareness Day”; and,

WHEREAS, Autism is a general term used to describe a group of complex developmental brain disorders—autism spectrum disorders—caused by a combination of genes and environmental influences; and,

WHEREAS, Autism affects 1 in 88 children—1 in 54 boys and 1 in 252 girls; and,

WHEREAS, 1 percent of the population of children in the U.S. ages 3-17 have an autism spectrum disorder and 1 to 1.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder; and,

WHEREAS, currently, the Autism Society estimates that the lifetime cost of caring for a child with autism ranges from \$3.5 million to \$5 million, and that the United States is facing almost \$90 billion annually in costs for autism (this figure includes research, insurance costs and non-covered expenses, Medicaid waivers for autism, educational spending, housing, transportation, employment, in addition to related therapeutic services and caregiver costs); and,

WHEREAS, autism is treatable. Children do not “outgrow” autism, but studies show that early diagnosis and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARMA, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That this Council hereby supports “Autism Awareness Month,” designated as the month of April, 2012. The Autism Society of Greater Cleveland (ASGC) has the mission of serving the autism community by providing information, coordinating support services, and facilitating communication for the benefit of those with Autism Spectrum Disorder from diagnosis through adulthood. For information, the ASGC can be reached at (216)556-4937; via e-mail: support @asgc.org; or visit www.asgc.org.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a true and accurate copy of this Resolution to the Autism Society and the Autism Society of Greater Cleveland.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that this measure is necessary due to this important issue, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____ PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH
THE MAYOR: _____ MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO